

Occupation Top Tens

from Idaho 2002-2012 occupational projections

This first chart shows the ten occupations with the largest numerical growth. The remarkable growth of these occupations in Idaho is due to many different causes. However, the primary causes are:

- The occupations are large to begin with.
- Idaho's labor force is the third fastest growing in the country, behind only Nevada and Utah in percentage growth.
- Idaho's general population growth is twice the rate as the nation as a whole.
- The age of Idaho's population is increasing requiring more health services.
- Idaho is changing from a rural-based economy dominated by the agriculture, lumber and timber, and mining industries, to a more urban-centered economy with a more diverse industrial mix.

Most Jobs Added:						
CIS Occupation Title	Base Year (2002) Employment	Projected Year (2012) Employment	Growth	Percent Change	Median Annual Wage	Education or Training Level
Registered Nurses	9,894	14,629	4,735	47.86	\$ 45,230	Associate Degree/Bachelor's degree
Retail Salespeople	18,118	21,954	3,836	21.17	17,830	Short-term on-the-job training
Customer Service Representatives	7,246	10,353	3,107	42.88	19,530	Moderate term on-the-job training/ Associate Degree/Post-secondary Vocational Training
Janitors	10,398	13,501	3,103	29.84	18,140	Short-term on-the-job training
Nursing Assistants	6,872	9,971	3,099	45.10	18,120	Short-term on-the-job training
General and Operations Managers	11,877	14,969	3,092	26.03	51,990	Work Experience plus degree
Counter Attendants	9,447	12,450	3,003	31.79	13,610	Short-term on-the-job training
Waiters and Waitresses	9,933	12,562	2,629	26.47	13,130	Short-term on-the-job training
Cashiers	15,306	17,852	2,546	16.63	15,830	Short-term on-the-job training
Carpenters	6,919	9,343	2,424	35.03	26,710	Long-term on-the-job training

The next chart is the top ten fastest-growing occupations. The fastest growing occupations show how Idaho's labor market is changing in response to the changes mentioned above. The continued growth of healthcare occupations is primarily due to rapid population growth and the general aging of the population. The construction related occupations are growing in response to population growth. One occupation, Data Communications Analysts, is growing rapidly in response to the increasing business activity and dependence on computer networks and the Internet.

Fastest-Growing:						
CIS Occupation Title	Base Year (2002) Employment	Projected Year (2012) Employment	Growth	Percent Change	Median Annual Wage	Education or Training Level
Medical Assistants	953	1,725	772	81.01	\$ 23,410	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Social and Human Service Assistants	2,385	4,215	1,830	76.73	17,470	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Data Communications Analysts	470	821	351	74.68	38,950	Bachelor's degree
Roofers	1,512	2,604	1,092	72.20	26,960	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Physician Assistants	180	301	121	67.22	60,980	Bachelor's degree
Physical Therapist Aides	202	337	135	66.83	17,640	Short-term on-the-job training
Tile Setters	385	633	248	64.42	32,210	Long-term on-the-job training
Physical Therapist Assistants	167	273	106	63.47	29,580	Associate degree
Home Health Aides	2,268	3,700	1,432	63.14	16,760	Short-term on-the-job training
Heating and Cooling System Mechanics	1,125	1,834	709	63.02	30,580	Long-term on-the-job training

If the preceding lists of occupations can be thought of as “winners” the following chart is made up of the losers. These occupations are declining in response to technological changes (word processes and typists, sawing machine operators, and electrical and electronic equipment assemblers), general industry decline (logging, sawmills, and rail transportation) or industry consolidation and technological change (announcers.)

Declining:						
CIS Occupation Title	Base Year (2002) Employment	Projected Year (2012) Employment	Growth	Percent Change	Median Annual Wage	Education or Training Level
Loggers	3,221	3,061	- 160	- 4.97	\$35,360	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Sawing Machine Operators	1,125	988	- 137	- 12.18	22,810	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Precision Assemblers	1,976	1,847	- 129	- 6.53	22,260	Short-term on-the-job training
Typists and Word Processors	686	583	- 103	- 15.01	26,910	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Loan Clerks	757	657	- 100	- 13.21	25,860	Short-term on-the-job training
Announcers	566	501	- 65	- 11.48	18,560	Long-term on-the-job training
Locomotive Engineers	296	240	- 56	- 18.92	30,590	Work Experience in a related occupation
Train Conductors and Yardmasters	325	271	- 54	- 16.62	28,390	Work Experience in a related occupation
Chemical Plant Operators	551	501	- 50	- 9.07	44,670	Long-term on-the-job training
Log Graders and Scalers	234	213	- 21	- 8.97	30,840	Moderate-term on-the-job training